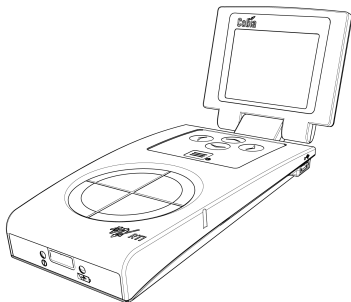


User Manual

Cobia Flex R/F
English - v2015.1A



NOTICE

RTI Electronics AB reserves the right to make changes to the Cobia Flex R/F and the information in this user manual without prior notice. RTI Electronics AB assumes no responsibility for any errors or consequential damage that may result from the use or misinterpretation of any information contained in this user manual.

Copyright © 2011-2015 by RTI Electronics AB. All rights reserved. The content of this document may not be reproduced for any purpose, other than supporting the use of the product, without prior permission from RTI Electronics AB.

User Manual Downloads

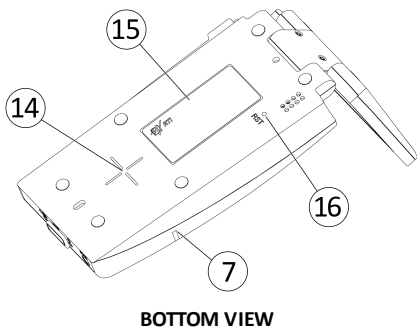
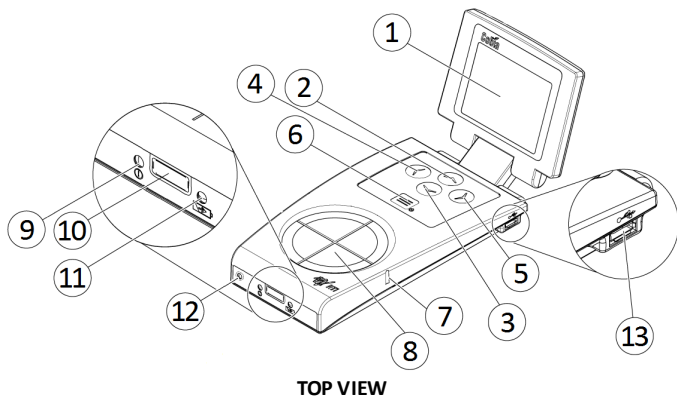
You can download user manuals here:

www.rti.se/downloads

Contents

1.	Product Overview	4
1.1	User Interface	6
1.1.1	Screen Description	6
1.1.2	Keyboard Operation	8
2.	Getting Started	9
2.1	Before Starting the Cobia for the First Time	9
2.2	Charging the Battery	9
3.	Performing a Measurement	10
3.1	Measuring with the Internal Detector	10
3.2	Measuring with an External Detector	11
3.3	Measuring with a Light Probe	12
3.4	Measuring with the Optional Internal MAS	13
3.4.1	Connecting the MAS Cable	14
3.4.2	Tube Current Safety Precautions	15
4.	Maintenance	16
4.1	Scheduled Calibration	16
4.2	Updating the System	16
5.	Technical Data	18
5.1	Battery Charging Details	18
5.2	Battery Warnings	18
5.3	Communicating with a PC	19
6.	Troubleshooting	19
7.	Standards and Compliances	20
7.1	Intended Use of the Cobia	20

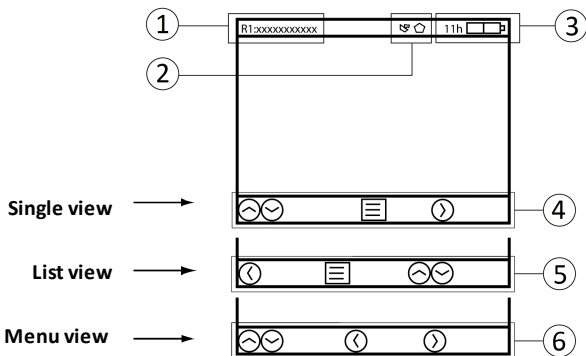
1 Product Overview



#	Name	Description
1	Display	Cobia display. See section <i>Screen Description</i>  6
2	Up arrow button	Used to move up in the user interface. See section <i>Keyboard Operation</i>  8
3	Down arrow button	Used to move down in the user interface. See section <i>Keyboard Operation</i>  8
4	Left arrow button	Used to move left/back in the user interface. See section <i>Keyboard Operation</i>  9
5	Right arrow button	Used to move right or make a selection in the user interface. See section <i>Keyboard Operation</i>  9
6	Menu and On/Off button	Used to start and power off the Cobia, and display the system menu. See section <i>Keyboard Operation</i>  8
7	Positioning marker	Marks the position of the radiation detector's active volume below the measurement surface.
8	Measurement surface	Circular entrance surface for the measurement sensors
9	Status indicator	Indicates functional status of the Cobia
10	External detector input	Used to attach external measurement detectors or probes
11	Battery charging indicator	The orange battery charging indicator is lit when the battery is charging. See section <i>Battery Charging Details</i>  18
12	Optional MAS connector	Used to attach invasive MAS cable (selected models). See section <i>Connecting the MAS Cable</i>  14
13	Micro-USB connector	Used both to charge and to connect the Cobia to a computer. See sections <i>Charging the Battery</i>  9 , <i>Updating the System</i>  16, and <i>Communicating with a PC</i>  19
14	Measurement center marking	Marks the center position of the radiation measurement on the bottom side
15	Product label	Displays detailed information about the product and model (on the bottom side)
16	Reset hole	Used to do a hardware reset of the Cobia. Marked "RST"(on the bottom side)

1.1 User Interface

1.1.1 Screen Description



A status field is displayed at the top of the screen. The left side of the field shows the Radiation or Measurement Quality Code and a description of the active range (1). The middle part of the field displays icons for when power is supplied and when an external detector and/or internal MAS cable is attached as well as warning symbols for when any settings are set to non-standard values (2). The right side of the field displays an icon for external power supply and an indicator for the battery level (3).

A simple user guide is displayed at the bottom of the screen. For each view, the buttons that are functional in this view are shown, together with a short text describing the function of the buttons (4-6).



Single view

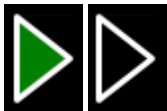
In the Single view, only one active parameter is displayed, represented by the value and its unit. Each unit is shown by a specific color. Pressing the up/down arrow buttons will change the active parameter.

When using the internal tube current socket (MAS) or an external detector (EXT), a

corresponding indicator will appear in the leftmost side of the unit field (not shown).

Note! The shown parameters may vary depending on the model of the Cobia. The example picture shows a tube voltage measurement with Cobia Flex R/F kV & Dose.

Located to the left of the value, two symbols may be visible:



1. A play symbol (triangle) is visible during the measurement. It is filled (green) during the radiation detection, and will then stay contoured while the Cobia accepts continued measurement during Restart Delay.



1B. When using the optional parameter cycling, a rotating indicator will appear just above the play symbol when the cycling is in progress.



2. A pulse indicator is shown below the play symbol. This indicator is turned on when pulses are detected, resulting in the display of additional pulse parameters.



List view

In the List view, all the available parameters are shown simultaneously. The active parameter (displayed in the Single view) is indicated in color.

If a measurement is started when the Cobia is in the List view, the display will switch to the Single view during the measurement

and then return to the List view after completion. Parameters from MAS or EXT are marked accordingly.

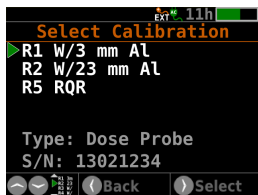
Note! The available parameters may vary depending on the model of the Cobia. The example picture shows a pulsed measurement with Cobia Flex R/F kV & Dose.



Main Menu view

The Menu view displays a set of available functions, selected by pressing the right arrow button. *Reset Measurement* zeroes and resets the measurement. *Prev. Measurements* recalls the results of earlier measurements. *Settings* is for viewing and modifying the measurement settings. *Preferences* is for

viewing and adjusting personal preferences. Any setting change that can affect the measurement results will be shown in the status field (top of screen). *System Info* gives detailed information about the Cobia, needed during support. *Power Off* turns the Cobia off. When using an external detector or probe, there will be an extra menu item, *Ext. Detector*, that displays detector information and settings as described below.



Select External Detector Calibration

When an external detector containing more than one calibration is connected to the Cobia, a selection screen will be shown (left).

For later calibration changes, the selection screen is also available via the Menu.

1.1.2 Keyboard Operation

1



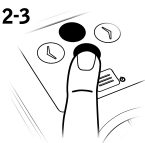
Menu and On/Off button

If Power = Off: Press once to start the Cobia

If Power = On: Press once to display the menu. Press and hold to switch off the Cobia

In Menu view: Closes the menu

2-3



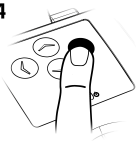
Up and Down arrow buttons

In Single view: Changes the active parameter shown

In List view: Changes the highlighted (active) parameter

In Menu view: Moves the marker

4



Right arrow button

In Single view: Switches the display to the List view

In Menu view: Activates the marked menu item

In the Settings or Preferences menus: Changes the set value (displayed in yellow) or activates the menu item

5



Left arrow button

In List view: Switches the display back to the Single view

In Menu view: switches the display back to the previous menu or screen

2 Getting Started

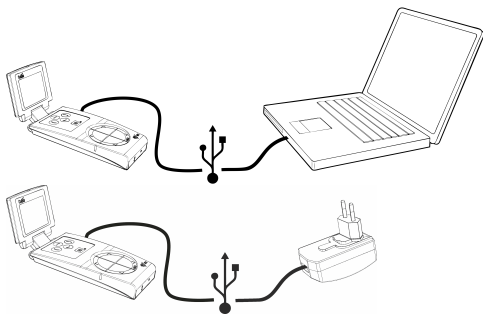
2.1 Before Starting the Cobia for the First Time

Before using the Cobia for the first time, make sure the unit is charged. See *Charging the Battery* ⁹ .

2.2 Charging the Battery

The battery can be charged in two ways:

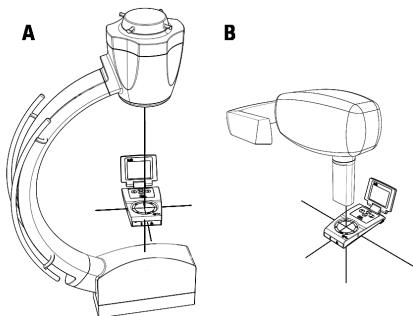
- Via the USB cable connected to a PC. The charging is not disturbed by communication between the PC and the Cobia.
- Via the USB cable connected to the included external charger.



3 Performing a Measurement

3.1 Measuring with the Internal Detector

The pictures below show how to position the Cobia in different types of X-ray units.



A = Radiography X-ray unit

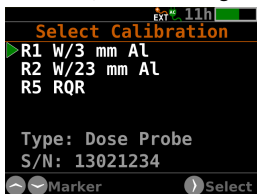
B = Dental X-ray unit

1. Start the X-ray unit.
2. Prepare the X-ray unit for the testing of desired settings.
3. Start the Cobia.
4. Place the Cobia under the X-ray source at a clinically relevant distance (typically 50 - 100 cm from the source).
5. Make sure that the radiation field covers (at least) the entire Cobia detector surface.
6. Start an exposure.
7. When the measurement is over, the recorded values are by default cycled on the Cobia display. Press the right arrow button to go to the List view for an overview.
8. Compare the parameters displayed by the Cobia with the test settings for the X-ray unit.
9. Record the results.
10. To repeat, adjust the settings and start over from Step 6.

3.2 Measuring with an External Detector

The description below describes how to use an external detector with the Cobia.

1. Start the X-ray unit and start the Cobia.
2. If not already attached, attach the external detector.
3. Set up the external detector unit. For an external dose probe, place the detector at a clinically relevant distance (typically 50 - 100 cm from the source), as described by the manual of the detector.
4. Attach the external detector to the Cobia.
5. If needed, select among the available calibrations (shown below).



6. Adjust the X-ray unit to the desired settings.
7. Start an exposure (or other signal).
8. When the measurement is over, the recorded values are by default cycled on the Cobia display. Press the right arrow button to go to the List view. All measurement results from the external input are marked with an EXT symbol.
9. Record the results.
10. To repeat, start over from Step 6.

3.3 Measuring with a Light Probe

In-depth instructions on how to use a Light Probe are found in the separate Light Probe manual.

Attach the light probe monitor adapter (pictured below, left) for measuring the luminance of a monitor or light box, or the lux adapter (below right) for measuring illuminance (ambient light).



Position the probe in the desired location and read the result.

When using the luminance adapter, the recorded value is automatically saved to the log function when using the shutter button. For illuminance measurements, the down arrow button has to be pressed for a value to be saved to the log.

Please note that there is no need to perform a reset before using the Light Probe.

More information is available in the guide for *Measuring with an External Detector* ¹¹.

3.4 Measuring with the Optional Internal MAS

The description below describes how to use the optional internal MAS cable with the Cobia Flex R/F + MAS model.



CAUTION!



Users of Invasive mAs meters must be aware of the potential damage to generators and electrical hazards to human in the event of improper connection or failure of any part of the meter circuit. The Cobia MAS is intended for use only by those skilled in the calibration and repair of X-ray machines. Please read the section *Tube Current Safety Precautions* [15](#) for more safety rules.

1. Prepare the unit that is to be tested.
2. Connect the Cobia MAS Cable, as described in the section *Connecting the MAS Cable* [14](#).
3. The tube current parameters are added to the List view, as shown below.



4. Start an exposure.
5. When the measurement is over, the recorded values are by default cycled on the Cobia display. Press the right arrow button to go to the List view. All measurement results from the internal MAS input are marked with an MAS symbol (shown below).

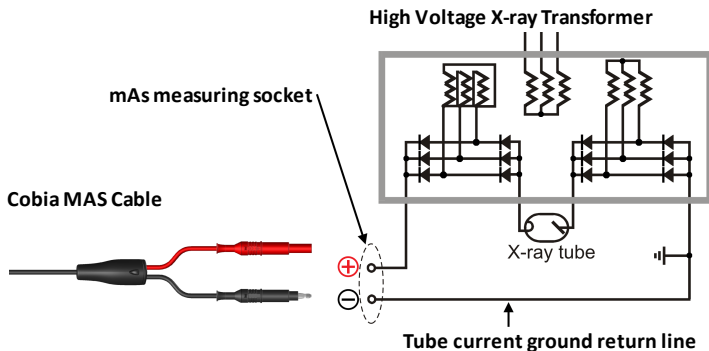


6. Record the results.
7. To repeat, change the settings and start over from Step 5.

3.4.1 Connecting the MAS Cable

Please be aware that high voltage may occur if the mAs probe is not properly connected. Read the *Tube Current Safety Precautions* ¹⁵ section before starting the measurement.

1. Power down the X-ray generator and wait for the recommended amount of time to allow for generator discharge according to the generator manufacturer's specifications.
2. Remove the jumper from the mAs measuring socket of the generator.
3. Connect the Cobia MAS Cable to the mAs measuring socket using the safety cables included, observing the polarity (see picture below). If necessary, use the adapters included.



4. Connect the other end of the Cobia MAS Cable to the MAS input of the Cobia Flex R/F.



Caution!

Do not forget to replace the mAs socket jumper when removing the Cobia MAS Cable.

3.4.2 Tube Current Safety Precautions

Only use the Cobia Internal MAS if you are authorized and skilled to make invasive measurements using the X-ray generator mAs measuring socket.

Please be aware that high voltage may occur on the Cobia Internal MAS if the cable connection to the X-ray generator mAs socket is broken. Always wait approximately one minute after switching off the X-ray generator before connecting or disconnecting the cables between the Cobia Internal MAS and the mAs measuring socket.

Always check that the short circuit path (jumper) normally connected to the mAs measuring socket is reapplied after using of the Cobia Internal MAS and before the X-ray generator is switched on again.

Important!

- Do NOT connect the Cobia Internal MAS to the filament current circuitry. The Cobia Internal MAS is only intended for measuring the tube mA and

mAs.

- Do NOT use the Cobia Internal MAS in contact with a patient.
- Do NOT use the Cobia Internal MAS on a circuit with a voltage higher than 90 V DC or 600 V AC.
- Do NOT expose the instrument to direct sunlight, extremes of temperature and humidity, or dew fall.
- Do NOT exceed the maximum tube current input (1000 mA).



Note!

The Cobia Internal MAS is intended for the servicing and quality control of diagnostic X-ray equipment. It is not intended for use during diagnostic examinations of patients.

RTI Electronics AB takes no responsibility for the misuse of the Cobia Internal MAS or use together with products that the Cobia Internal MAS is not intended for.

RTI Electronics AB assumes no responsibility in the event of customers not following these safety precautions.

4 Maintenance

4.1 Scheduled Calibration

RTI recommends that the Cobia is calibrated every 24 months. Send your Cobia to your local RTI distributor, who will send it to our service department in Mölndal, Sweden, or New Jersey, USA. For contact details, please see the back of this manual or the list of local RTI distributors on the RTI website (www.rti.se).

4.2 Updating the System

The Cobia system update can easily be done on any computer with support for USB memories.

Below is a step-by-step guide for when using a computer with Windows OS, but the procedure can be done on a computer with any OS, just as long as it has a USB port.

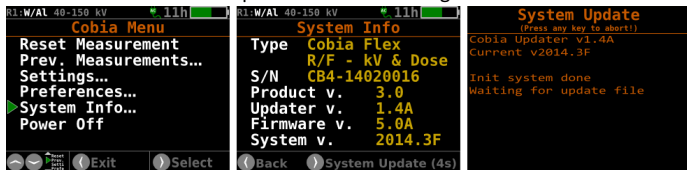
1. Start by downloading the latest versions from www.rti.se/downloads, using a web browser.
2. On a Windows PC, start a File Explorer window (WIN+E) and unpack the

downloaded Cobia Update zip file to a local drive.

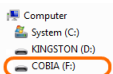
3. Start the Cobia and connect the cable between the PC and the Cobia.
4. On the Cobia, press the menu button and enter the “System Info” menu.

Note! Make sure that the update file contains a newer system version than already present in the system.

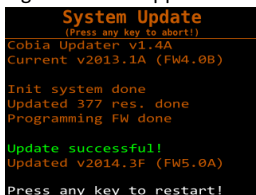
5. If so, press and hold down the right arrow button for approximately 4 seconds to start the update mode. See images below.



6. After a short while, a USB memory device named COBIA (as shown below) will appear in the File Explorer on the PC, and the Cobia display will show “Waiting for update file”. Now, drag-and-drop the unpacked updater file (.cobia) from the PC local drive using the File Explorer to the USB device named COBIA.



7. A counter will now start on the Cobia display during the resource file update procedure. It will take a few minutes. When the update is completed the following screen will appear:



8. Press any key to launch the updated Cobia firmware.

After the update, you may want to change the language of the Cobia user interface. You will find this setting by pressing the menu button, and then selecting User Preferences.

5 Technical Data

5.1 Battery Charging Details

The section *Charging the Battery*  9 describes how the Cobia battery is charged.

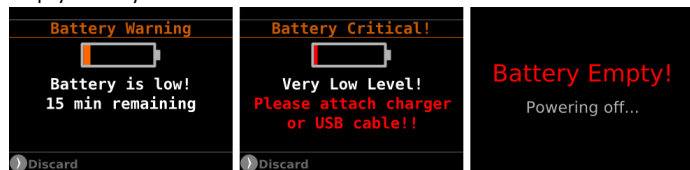
On the front face of the Cobia, there is an orange battery charging indicator, marked . The indicator is lit when the battery is actively charging. It will gradually turn off when the battery is getting closer to being fully charged. Charging is also possible when the Cobia is powered off.

Approximate battery running and charging times:

Capacity	Running time	Charging times (from empty)		
		Using Power supply	USB, Cobia ON	USB, Cobia OFF
50 %	7½ h	1½ h (90 min)	3½ h	17 h
80 %	12 h	2½ h (150 min)	6 h	27 h
90 %	13½ h	3¼ h (195 min)	7 h	30 h
100 %	15 h	5 h (300 min)	8½ h	32 h

5.2 Battery Warnings

Warnings are shown when the battery is starting to run low (see below). After the second warning, the system can suddenly shut down due to an empty battery.



5.3 Communicating with a PC

The Cobia Flex R/F includes a user-friendly communication protocol, allowing communication between the Cobia Flex R/F and a computer, including the Ocean version 2015 (or newer) software. The protocol can also be integrated into other software. The protocol is described in detail in the Cobia Reference Manual.

6 Troubleshooting

If you experience any problems with the Cobia, please go through the following steps before contacting your local RTI distributor or RTI Electronics:

- A. Check the RTI website for system updates (www.rti.se).
- B. Go through the checklist below.

The Cobia does not start:

If the Cobia does not start, try the following: Connect the charger and retry starting the Cobia. If it does start, then the battery was too low to start. If this does not help, try resetting the Cobia as described below.

The Cobia indicates a dose lower than anticipated:

If the dose readings are too low or if the irradiation times for short exposures are too short, check that the measurement is performed so that the radiation is perpendicular to the Cobia detector surface. Please also make sure that the entire surface is evenly irradiated.

The Cobia gives "Field Error":

The Cobia detector surface needs to be properly irradiated. Please make sure that the entire surface is irradiated, and that nothing is blocking the radiation.

The external detector gives false readings:

The external detector cable is very sensitive when using certain probe types. Try not to move the detector while attached to the Cobia. To reset false readings, use the *Reset Measurement* on the menu.

How do I reset the Cobia?

There is a reset hole on the bottom face of the Cobia, marked RST. Insert the end of a paper clip or similar to reset the Cobia.

7 Standards and Compliances

For standards and compliances, see the Reference Manual.

7.1 Intended Use of the Cobia

Accessory to diagnostic X-ray equipment to be used as an electrometer. Together with external probes it is to be used for independent service and quality control, as well as measurements of kerma, kerma rate, kerma length product, kVp, tube current, exposure time, luminance, and illuminance within limitations stated below.

If installed according to accompanying documents, the product is intended to be used together with all diagnostic X-ray equipment except for:

- therapeutical X-ray sources.
- X-ray equipment with tube potential below 18 kV.
- X-ray equipment on which the instrument cannot be mounted properly, e.g. equipment where the beam field size is narrower than the active part of the detector.
- specific types of X-ray equipment listed in the instructions for use or in additional information from the manufacturer.

With the X-ray installation in stand-by conditions without patients present, the product is intended to be used:

- to provide the operator with information on radiation beam parameters that might influence further steps in an examination but not an ongoing exposure.
- for assessing the performance of the X-ray equipment.
- for evaluation of examination techniques and procedures.
- for service and maintenance measurements.
- for quality control measurements.

- for educational purposes, authority supervision etc.

The product is intended to be used by hospital physicists, X-ray engineers, manufacturer's service teams, and other professionals with similar tasks and competencies. The operator needs a short training to be able to use the product as intended. This training can be achieved either by careful study of the manual, studies of the built-in help function in measurement software or, on request, in a short course ordered from the manufacturer.

The product is intended to be used inside X-ray rooms ready for clinical use and can safely be left switched on and in any measuring mode in the vicinity of patients.

The product is **NOT** intended to be used:

- for direct control of diagnostic X-ray equipment performance during irradiation of a patient.
- so that patients or other unqualified persons can change settings of operating parameters during and immediately before and after measurements.

NOTES

NOTES



Contact Information - World Headquarters

RTI Electronics AB
Flöjelbergsgatan 8 C
SE-431 37 MÖLNDAL, Sweden
Phone: +46 31 7463600
Fax: +46 31 270573

Sales: sales@rti.se
Support: support@rti.se
Service: service@rti.se

Web: www.rti.se

Contact Information - US Office

RTI Electronics Inc.
33 Jacksonville Road, Bldg. 1,
Towaco, NJ 07082, USA
Phone: 1-800-222-7537
(Int. +1-973-439-0242)
Fax: Int. +1-973-439-0248

Sales: sales@rtielectronics.com
Support: support@rtielectronics.com
Service: service@rtielectronics.com

Web: www.rti.se